

Winterport Recreation Board Meeting 9/20/2007

MEETING AGENDA AND MINUTES

Meeting Date:	September 20, 2007	Time:	6:00 pm ET
Facilitator:	Mike Knupp	Recorder:	Mike Knupp
Location:	Victoria Grant Civic Center		

Attendee List: (X indicates that the member was present)

Att	Name	Title	Att	Name	Title
X	Mandy Olver	Board Member	X	Chris Beaulieu	Board Member
	Helga Meo	Board Member	X	Scott Misler	Alt Board Member
X	Mike Knupp	Board Member	X	Dave Lester	Rec Coordinator
	Norm Poirier	Board Member		Phil Pitula	Town Manager
	Heather Roberts	Board Member	X	Diana Meehan	Resident
X	Ken Miller	Board Member	X	Wendy Seekins	Resident
			X	Joan Jeter	Resident

DOCUMENTS TO HAVE ON HAND:

Description	Comments
Budget Worksheets	

AGENDA:

Nbr.	Topic	Estimated Start Time	Responsible
1.	Review of Agenda and Action Items	6:00	Mike
2.	Recreation Coordinator Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">Soccer statusWalking Track StatusWoodchip Status	6:10	Dave
3.	Preliminary Basketball Planning	6:30	All
4.	Rec Coordinator and Board Health Check	8:00	All
5.	Meeting Wrap Up and Confirm Next Meeting	8:20	Mike

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MINUTES:

Review of Agenda and Action Items

Mike brought the meeting to order at 6:05pm. Mike went through the agenda and introduced Scott Misler as the latest addition to the Board. Scott joins us as the Alternate Board Member. Mike went through the overall Board composition and how we conduct our monthly meetings.

Recreation Coordinators Report

Dave attended the meeting after his soccer practice ended. Prior to his arrival, Mike gave a status on the soccer program. Soccer once again has a strong participation; 40 PreK-K, 30+ 1st and 2nd graders, and 38+ 3-5th graders. We purchased 1 set of new 4'x6' goals and corner flags for all the fields. Registration forms have been collected and submitted to the Town Office. T-Shirts are in and need to be picked up. Overall things are going well and no pressing issues to address. Mike also provided a status on the walking track. The walking track has been started and is well under way. The track has been excavated and the crusher dust has been delivered to the park. Mandy inquired on the estimated time to complete the project. We believe the job will be done in the next couple weeks. Mike also gave a status on the Woodchip Project and at that time Dave attended the meeting. The woodchips will be delivered tomorrow and then be put on the playground Saturday after soccer. We'll lay out the felt starting at about 11:00am and then around noon, the chips will be transferred up to the playground.

Preliminary Basketball Planning

The Recreation Department will once again offer a youth basketball program. We discussed the current divisions of PreK-K, 1st-2nd graders (coed), 3-4th graders (gender specific), 5-6th graders (gender specific), and 7-8th (gender specific). We agreed that the PreK-K, 1st-2nd grade, and 3-4th grade groups will continue as they have in the past. Much discussion ensued about the future of the 5-6th grade offering. The conversation centered around whether the Winterport Recreation Department should continue to sponsor a team in the Eastern Maine Basketball League (EMBL). Last year the 5-6th grade girls team participated the "Town League" and was very dominant. There were 2 5-6th grade boys teams last year. One entered the EMBL and the other entered the Town League. The group that entered the Town League was dominated by the league. There were 3 representatives from the public in attendance to discuss this issue (Joan, Wendy, Diana). Joan, Wendy, and Diana were unified in their belief that the group of 6th grade girls would benefit more by playing in the EMBL versus the Town League. As such, they were very much in favor of the Rec Board continuing the EMBL offering. They also felt that if EMBL is not an offering, there will be a contingent of girls that would play somewhere else outside of the town and not play again in the Town League. Mandy offered that last year having 2 boys teams resulted in some difficulties. Namely the team selection process and the reality that the group that played in the Town League was completely dominated by the league. Dave offered his belief that the Recreation Department should not engage in practices that separate kids into a "more skilled team" and a "less skilled team". The teams should be created evenly. Furthermore, Dave offered his belief that the Recreation Department should remove themselves from the EMBL league at the 5-6th grade level and only participate in the Town League. Mike offered that although we have this one specific situation with this group of girls, the Board needs to act in the best long term needs of the Town and stay consistent with our mission statement and philosophy. We ended the discussion by tabling a final decision on what offerings will be made. There were some Board members not present and they will be brought up to speed on the discussion. At our October meeting, the Board will make a final decision by virtue of a vote with majority rules.

Rec Coordinator and Board Health Check

REC COORDINATOR HEALTH CHECK:

Dave voiced that he is overall happy with how the last year went. He is pleased that the board is engaging in more activities as compared to previous years. There is nothing specific that he feels is not working and needs to be changed. The Board in agreed that it is a benefit having Dave as the coordinator and that this has resulted in the Board being able to engage in activities more conducive to an oversight Board. Mike voiced his concern that mowing takes time away from Dave's time to devote to coordinating rec programs. As mowing season is coming to a close, we'll table this concern for now and pick it up again next spring. Mike also voiced his belief that Dave should

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make himself available on the 1st practice or 2 of each group. I.e., be there to ensure the program is up and running and all equipment and access needs are taken care of. Dave agreed with this. Mike also mentioned having Dave as a conduit to the Town Office is a vital part of that job and we need that to continue.

REC BOARD HEALTH CHECK:

Mike started off by saying that we have suffered from a lack of focus that culminates in an overall feeling of not accomplishing anything. Last year was a better year and to continue the trend, he encouraged the Board to set 1 or 2 focus areas. These focus areas will govern where we spend our time this year. Each board member has presented what they think our focus areas should be. That list is as follows...

1. Park Improvement (overall improvement including the tennis courts)
2. Maturing the current programs (make our current offerings better)
3. Make a new offering available
4. Put the Board on a path to offering more non-sports centered offerings
5. Participation Improvement (respond better to email, improve mtg attendance, etc)

At the October meeting the Board will review these options and collaboratively decide on the 2 focus areas.

Meeting Wrap Up

Mike brought the meeting to a close at 8:20pm and we agreed to meet on October 18th. This date might change in order to provide a date that more board members can attend.

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FUTURE MEETING AGENDA ITEMS:

Nbr.	Topic		Future Meeting That Item Will Be Discussed In	
1.	Sports Done Right		TBD	
2.	Abbot Park and Victoria Grant Civic Center Development Plan		ONGOING	

FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE:

Date	Time / Location	Facilitator/Recorder
October 18 th , 2007	6:00pm @ Victoria Grant Civic Center	Mike / Heather

ACTION ITEMS

Open Action Items

AI#	Create Date	Action Item	Resolution	Status	Assigned	Target Date

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Closed Action Items

AI#	Create Date	Action Item	Resolution	Status	Assigned	Target Date
1	1/24/06	Heather needs to submit a letter to the Town Office on her interest to join the Recreation Board	2/7 – This has been completed.	CLOSED	Heather	2/7
2	2/7/06	Resolve basketball budget items that have an overdrawn balance. Mandy to work with Phil on this.	11/15 – Closing item out. This was taken care of last spring.	CLOSED	Mandy	2/18
3	2/7/06	Ken to finalize the Indoor Soccer registration form, get it approved by the Superintendent's Office, and distribute to the Smith and Wagner schools.	3/22 – Completed and program is up and running.	CLOSED	Ken	2/13
4	2/7/06	Meet with TM to review proposed budget	3/22 – This was completed and budget committee mtg was held on 3/21.	CLOSED	Mandy	2/10
5	2/7/06	Post a Public Notice for the March Meeting	11/15 – Closing out. Gone by.	CLOSED	TBD	3/1
6	2/7/06	Meet with TM to discuss hiring a rec coordinator for the remainder of the 2005-2006 fiscal	3/22 – Letter submitted. Need to develop or understand the process to advertise/interview/hire. 11/15 – Closing out as rec coordinator has been hired.	CLOSED	Ken	6/1
7	2/7/06	Get permission to use Wagner facility for March board mtg	Completed	CLOSED	Helga	3/17
8	11/16	Talk to mother of hearing impaired basketball participant to discuss level or interpreter support	12/14 – Services are being provided. Dave working with the Town to determine how to fund services if the \$1400 in Rec funding runs out.	CLOSED	Helga Meo	12/14
9	11/16	Discuss with Phil about the \$200 expense for cheerleading t-shirts and pom-poms	12/14 – Pom/Poms and TShirts have been provided.	CLOSED	Dave Lester	12/14
10	11/16	Create basketball contact sheet	12/14 – A contact sheet has been provided for the Town Rec League, but we really wanted an internal contact sheet. This is still outstanding. 12/26 – Dave emailed out contact list	CLOSED	Dave Lester	12/26/06
11	11/16	Discuss with Carla Leathem Smith School usage on weekdays that have an observed holiday	12/14 – The gym is being used, but this issue is not completely closed. It will become more of an issue if an after-school program is created. Will hold over AI for next meeting. 3/13 – Closing for now and will bring up later should the need arise.	CLOSED	Norm Poirier and Helga Meo	3/01

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AI#	Create Date	Action Item	Resolution	Status	Assigned	Target Date
12	11/16	Take down soccer nets and store the standards	12/14 – Mike Knupp took care of this.	CLOSED	Mike Knupp	12/14
13	12/14	Verify Cheering registration fees are all in.	12/26 – Dave confirmed all registrations forms and fees are in.	CLOSED	Mike→Dave	12/26/06